THE

WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

For MONDAY, April 22, 1805.

Excellent Regulations of Frederick the Great of Pruſſia, with reſpect to the Finances of that Kingdom.

ONE of the branches of adminiſtration wherein Frederick the Second manifeſted moſt conſpicuouſly the vigour of his mind, and the firmneſs of his will, was the finances. The order eſtabliſhed and purſued in the management of the funds and taxes was admirable. The penalty of death was denounced againſt unfaithful or corrupt agency; and this was one of the points wherein Frederick's juſtice was inexorable. One of his miniſters of finance, who had preſumed, for his own particular emolument, to put into circulation ſome ſtock of the maritime company, which ought not to have been, into trade, was arreſted, tried, and condemned to be deprived of all his titles, degraded from his nobility, and confined for the reſt of his days in the fortreſs of Spandau, where he ſhould receive a crown a day out of all his effects, which were adjudged to be confiſcated. This ſentence was rigorouſly carried into execution.

Frederick's acceſſion to the crown having fallen on the 31ſt of May, he ordered that during his reign the year of government ſhould commence and terminate at the ſame epoch. Thus every year the miniſters arrived at Potzdam on the 31ſt of May, and each of them laid before the king three duplicate ſtatements reſpecting his own particular department. The firſt was an exact and complete account of the year juſt finiſhed; the ſecond, a regular ſtatement of the ordinary and fixed expences for the year commencing; and the third, an argumentative deduction of the extraordinary expences which might be foreſeen for that ſame year. The king examined all theſe pieces before he retired to reſt, and ſigned thoſe of which he approved. On the

next morning, he returned all the papers to the miniſters, accompanied with ſuch obſervations and orders as he judged fit. By noon thoſe gentlemen were on their return from Berlin, and the orders were proceeding on the route for the different departments and provinces.

All the Pruſſian cheſts, or depots of public money, took new regiſters on every firſt of June. Thoſe of the year elapſed were cloſed upon the evening of the preceding day. None of theſe regiſters had ever any controul over one another; every thing in them was new, as if it had been the firſt. If there remained in cheſt, any deniers of the year expired, they were expedited for the ſuperior cheſt, although only a ſou had remained in them. Thus each year preſented throughout a ſimple account, diſengaged from what had preceded and what was to follow. The reſidue of the ſuperior cheſts, all expences diſcharged, was ſent to the treaſure of reſerve.

Every year, in the firſt days of June, carts loaded with little barrels of ſilver might be ſeen on the road to Berlin, whither, when they arrived, they were ſent to the caſtle, in order to be depoſited in the cells where this treaſure was ſtowed. It was under the guardianſhip of an ancient ſubaltern officer, to whom the king gave, in annual appointments, the ſum of 6000 francs. This perſon, who alone had in his poſſeſſion the keys of a treaſure containing more than three hundred millions of livres, was worthy of the confidence the king repoſed in him. He was a man of the greateſt probity, exactitude, diſcretion, attentiveneſs, and retiredneſs, that it was poſſible to find. Beſides this general treaſure, the king had a particular one called la chatouille. This was kept at Potzdam, under the care of one of his firſt domeſtics; it might amount to fifteen or twenty millions of rix-dollars, or from ſixty to ſeventy-five millions of livres. From this private treaſure he took all that was requiſite for his perſonal expences, as well in neceſſaries as in articles of luxury and fancy, ſuch as his horſes and jewels, together with the expences of ſome particular eſtabliſhments, as thoſe of his civil and military ſchool.

Frederick, like all other kings, was often importuned with the ſchemes of projectors of finance, preſented by men, who, according to their own report, made an abſolute abnegation of their own private intereſt, and only conſulted that of his majeſty. The king, one day adviſing with the philoſopher Helvetius on this ſubject, whom he had invited, through the mediation of D'Alembert, to Berlin, at the period when he had juſt quitted the office of farmer-general, in order to devote himſelf entirely to philoſophy, and who had thereupon expreſsly repaired to the court of Brandenburgh, Helvetius ſaid, with frankneſs, "There is no occaſion, Sire, to read theſe projects, in order to know and appreciate them; all of them, ſtrictly analyſed,

lyſed, are reducible to one and the ſame formula, the ſcope of which is, I beſeech your majeſty to authoriſe me to rob your ſubjects of ſuch a ſum, on condition that I remit a part of it to you."

Narrative of the Shipwreck of Captain George Roberts, in his Paſſage from Virginia to the Coaſt of Guinea, in the Year 1721.

(Concluded from Page 284.)

IN this place Mr. Roberts and his boy had continued for ſeveral days, ſtill viſited by the natives, who exerted themſelves with increaſing benevolence to relieve him. Among thoſe who now came off to him, was a man who, to his ſurpriſe, addreſſed him in Engliſh. On enquiry what could bring him here, he ſaid his name was Franklin, that he was a native of Wales, and after having been ſome time detained by pirates, had found means to eſcape, and to reach this iſland.

The converſation of Franklin gave Captain Roberts much conſolation; and he indulged the hopes of having the only boat belonging to the iſland ſent round to take him off: but as it did not arrive at the expected time, he became impatient, and reſolved to attempt to climb the rocks, by the aſſiſtance of the friendly natives.

With extreme difficulty he aſcended half way up the firſt rock, ſome hundred feet, when looking down, his head grew giddy with the horrid view, and, had he not been ſupported, he muſt have been daſhed to pieces, by falling to the bottom. At laſt he reached the firſt landing place; from thence he proceeded about three quarters of a mile in a narrow path, open towards the ſea, and ſometimes found it ſo contracted as barely to allow him footing. His guides, however, aſſiſted him with poles over the moſt difficult places; but at laſt they came to an aſcent almoſt perpendicular, when two of the negroes ſtriking a crag, to try if it was fixed, a huge fragment tumbled over them, and from the noiſe it raiſed, Roberts expected that the cliffs above would inſtantly fall upon them, and involve them in undiſtinguiſhed ruin.

When this alarm was over, they concerted meaſures for farther operations; and finding it impoſſible for Roberts to climb the remaining ſpace, his guides deſcended with him in an oblique direction, to the bottom, without any accident. The fatigue he had undergone threw him into a fever, which laſted near a month; but ſtill he had the happineſs to experience the unwearied aſſiduities of the natives; and on his recovery

found the boat ready to receive him, and safely reached the harbour.

Unable to walk or support himself, he was fastened upon the governor's horse, and in that state conducted to his house. This gentleman, in a manner honourable to his feelings, sympathized with Captain Roberts's distresses; and after some time, he was invited to take up his residence with the son of a former governor, who received him with the pleasure of a friend. Meanwhile the natives continued their attentions, and daily supplied him with various presents. As soon as Roberts was able to walk abroad, he returned the visits of those kind people; and amused himself in joining their hunting parties. That the breed of wild goats may not be destroyed, no one is allowed to hunt without the governor's consent, and this is one of the principal privileges he enjoys.

With the mildest disposition and most benevolent intentions, the natives appeared to be most ignorant and superstitious. They had a negro priest who officiated among them, but his learning and understanding were nearly on a level with those of his flock.

St. John's island, where Captain Roberts landed, is situated in 15 degrees 25 minutes north latitude, and is very high and rocky. It produces amazing quantities of salt-petre in several natural caverns, where it hangs like icicles, or forms a crust like hoar frost.

By the favour of the governor, Captain Roberts set about building a boat to carry him thence, and having saved several of the materials from the vessel which was wrecked, the business was carried on with spirit. The idea of visiting his native land, inspired Roberts with resolution to persevere in this arduous undertaking, and his operations were well seconded by the friendship and attachment of the islanders. It is impossible to do adequate justice to their general conduct and zealous good services in favour of our countryman; and though shipwreck in such a situation, where he was cut off from all hopes of deliverance, except by his own endeavours, must have been painful enough; yet it appears, that he could not have been more fortunate than in falling into the hands of such a gentle race of men.

The boat being completed in the best manner that circumstances would allow, and supplied with an adequate stock of provisions, Roberts devoted a few days to make his thankful acknowledgements to the natives, who desired no other reward but his favourable report of them to his countrymen, and having taken his leave, he embarked with his boy, two negro mariners, who belonged to St. Nicholas, and three of these islanders; Franklin chusing to remain in his present situation.

The evening after they sailed, they came to St. Phillip's, and landing next morning were courteously received. Here they

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fell in with a perſon who had the title of proanador of St. John's, and who wanted to go to that iſland. The boat being found inconvenient for a voyage of any length, this gentleman propoſed to Captain Roberts to return with him to St. John's, and to carry with him ſome artificers, who would ſoon equip his little veſſel in a more commodious manner. This offer was very grateful, and as ſeveral other perſons wiſhed to viſit that iſland, Captain Roberts accommodated them with a paſſage, for which he received an adequate recompence.

The ſame day that they weighed from St. Phillip they reached St. John's, to the great ſatisfaction of all the paſſengers and crew, ſome of whom being unaccuſtomed to nautical expeditions, plumed themſelves not a little on the voyage they had made.

The natives ſhewed our countrymen the ſame humane and friendly attention as before; and by the aſſiſtance of the carpenters they had brought from St. Phillip, the boat was much improved, and better adapted for any navigation.

Having carried back the artificers, Captain Roberts ſailed to St. Jago, and continued trading for ſome time among the different iſlands, carrying proviſions to Mayo, and loading back with ſalt; 'till at length, being at St. Nicholas, his boat was ſtaved to pieces on the rocks, while himſelf and crew were on ſhore. The inhabitants, however, as at St. John's, gave him the moſt convincing proofs of their beneficence, and purchaſed the fragments of his boat for twelve dollars.

Once more reduced to the neceſſity of attempting ſome new expedient, or of remaining where he was, the proſpects of our author began to brighten before he could come to any deciſive reſolution of his own. An Engliſh veſſel arrived, commanded by Captain Harfoot, who intended to trade among thoſe iſlands for clothes, and then proceed to Barbadoes. This officer finding Roberts likely to promote the objects of commerce he had in view, made overtures to him for entering into the ſcheme, a propoſal which was gladly accepted.

They viſited Bona Viſta, Mayo, and St. Jago. In the harbour of Port Praya, in the latter iſland, they found an Engliſh ſhip from Guinea, freighted by the Portugueſe merchants. She had loſt the greateſt part of her crew, and having ſtill a voyage to Liſbon to perform, her captain was anxious to engage the ſervices of Roberts; and the hope of finding his way to England much earlier than he could otherwiſe have done, prevailed on him to detach himſelf from Captain Harfoot, and to embrace the preſent offer.

Having embarked in this ſhip, they had ſcarcely left St. Jago, when the moſt dangerous leaks were diſcovered, and as the trade winds would not permit them to return to the Cape Verd Iſlands,

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they had no alternative but to bear away for Barbadoes, which iſland they reached on Chriſtmas-day, 1724.

At this place the ſhip was completely repaired, and after a ſtay of three months in that iſland, they again directed their courſe to Liſbon, when Captain Roberts eagerly ſeized the firſt opportunity of obtaining a paſſage to London, which he reached in June, 1725, after an uniform ſeries of diſtreſſes and diſappointments, during a period of four years.

Additional Particulars of the remarkable Eſcape of Mr. Gramſhaw, one of the Cadets on board the Abergave n Eaſt Indiaman.*

ON the awful night of the 5th of February, about nine o'clock, the paſſengers were informed of their perilous ſituation; on which, every one was endeavouring to gain an imagined place of ſafety. Mr. Gramſhaw, and two more of the cadets, after hearing theſe terrific words, "We muſt all go down with the ſhip!" went into the cabin, where they continued ſome time looking at each other, without uttering a word. At laſt one of them ſaid, "Let us return upon deck;" and two of them did ſo. Mr. Gramſhaw remained behind. He then opened his writing-deſk, and took out his commiſſion, his letters of introduction, and ſome caſh: after which, he went upon deck, but did not ſee either of his companions; he then bent his eyes forward, when, at the moment, the ſhip went down head foremoſt! The ſea in an immenſe column traverſed along the deck to where he then was, endeavouring to aſcend the ſteps leading to the poop, when he was launched into the deep! The night dark, cold, the ſea in its utmoſt rage, the wind blowing very vehemently, not knowing how to ſwim, and encumbered with a great coat and boots, he ſuppoſes that, when the ſtern of the ſhip went down, he muſt have been drawn round it by the vortex occaſioned by her ſinking, as he found himſelf on the contrary ſide of the ſhip from which he had been precipitated.

Whilſt he was endeavouring to keep himſelf from ſinking, ſomething daſhed againſt the back of his hand two or three times, which he caught hold of, and found it to be a rope hanging to the mizen ſhrouds. This fortunate circumſtance re-animated his drooping ſpirits. He endeavoured, and did climb up it ſeveral feet; but, what with the boots and great coat, and other clothes, now in every part ſaturated with water, he ſlipped down it into the ſea! His ſpirits now failed him, having made his utmoſt effort to preſerve life; when, at this fearful moment,

* Vide Page 242.

ment, reſigning himſelf to the will of his Creator, the ſhip gave a lurch, by which he was canted into the mizen ſhrouds! He then fixed himſelf as well as he could, by graſping the rattlings. In this ſituation he remained a length of time, ſhivering and benumbed with cold.

Mr. Gilpin, the fourth mate, a man poſſeſſing a heart of the moſt ineſtimable texture, had, with about twenty others, gained the mizen top. Impelled by the dictates of humanity, he deſcended the ſhrouds, with a view, no doubt, to render aſſiſtance to any that might be in want thereof; when he diſcovered Mr. Gramſhaw, whom he lifted into the mizen top, and placed him with the others already there. During their ſtay there, viz. from the hour of eleven o'clock at night 'till ſeven in the morning, he at various times continued cheering his companions in diſtreſs, and requeſting them to keep up their ſpirits, &c. &c.

ANECDOTES *of the late* EARL *of* MASSAREENE.

A Few weeks ſince this nobleman paid the debt of nature, at his ſeat in the county of Antrim, in Ireland, aged 62. Clotworthy Skeffington, Earl of Maſſareene, and baron of Loughneagh, was born January 28, 1742; was admitted of Bene't college, Cambridge, 1758, with a clergyman named Seth Pollard, fellow of Trinity College, Dublin, for his tutor, but who really taught him nothing but what himſelf delighted in, rowing on the river down to Ely.

He went to France on the concluſion of the peace with the late king, when he contracted debts which his eſtates were more than ſufficient to diſcharge; but, rather than apply his income to this uſe, he preferred remaining in priſon twenty-five years, the term at the expiration of which, by the then exiſting laws of France, he would be at liberty, without payment, from every claim, and which term the revolution haſtened. He effected his eſcape from the Chatelet, where he was long confined, by marrying Mademoiſelle Mary Anne Borcier, daughter of the governor, who, with her ſiſter and her huſband, became the partners of his flight, and accompanied him to Ireland. Having got out of France with difficulty, being nearly ſtopped at Calais, in May, 1789, on landing at Dover he was the firſt to jump out of the boat, and, falling on his knees, thrice exclaimed, "God bleſs this land of liberty!" In his early days he figured very conſpicuouſly in the walks of faſhion. When making the grand tour, ſoon after his coming into poſſeſſion of his family titles and eſtates, his lordſhip unfortunately at Paris became acquainted with a native of Tripoli, in Syria, who from his artful ſophiſtry, prevailed upon the noble lord to co operate with him in a plan he had formed of ſupplying the kingdom of France

with the article of ſalt, to be brought from the coaſts of Syria; and held out ſuch apparent advantages to be derived therefrom as induced the credulous young nobleman to enter into engagements for the payment of ſuch ſums of money as might be neceſſary for the accompliſhment of the object. In a very ſhort time after, the Syrian adventurer ſet ſail for Tripoli, and returned to Paris in due courſe of time, with ſuch flattering accounts of the ſucceſs of the expedition as led Lord Maſſareene to plunge himſelf into thoſe calamities which proved the bane of the comforts which, from his noble birth, he had a juſt right to expect.

After being ſome years confined in the Grand Chatelet at Paris, in a moſt unpleaſant ſituation to a man of any rank in life, the natural love of liberty ſo far prevailed as to lead his lordſhip to lay a plan for his eſcape to his native country; but the carriage which was waiting for his reception was kept ſo long hovering about the priſon that it cauſed ſuſpicion among the gaol-keepers. His lordſhip was apprehended juſt as he was entering the carriage, and immediately ſent into a dungeon many feet below the ſurface of the river Siene, upon which the Chatelet is built.

He remained there in ſuch a ſtate of wretchedneſs, that his beard grew to a moſt immoderate length, and rendered him a ſtriking picture of the viciſſitudes of human life. According to the arrangements made by his lordſhip, the debt would have been paid in the courſe of two years more. He was married twice at Paris, and afterwards at St. Peter's, Cornhill, Auguſt 19, 1789. His lady died at Greenwich, in October, 1800. On diſſection, part of her lungs were found decayed, and her heart preternaturally enlarged. His lordſhip is ſucceeded in titles and eſtates by the Hon. Colonel Skeffington, his brother.

Intereſting Account of the Mode of employing Pariſh Children at Birmingham, by the Rev. Joſiah Pratt, A. M.

[From the twenty-fourth Report of the Society for Bettering the Condition of the Poor.]

THE expediency of ſeparating the children of the poor from thoſe depraved and incorrigible perſons, who too frequently form the population of a pariſh workhouſe, had induced the overſeers and guardians of the poor at Birmingham, to place ſuch as were from four to ten years of age, with nurſes in the neighbouring villages. This, however, was attended with ſome inconveniences. The attention of the overſeers and guardians was then directed to another object. A large building, about a mile from the town, was vacant. This ſuggeſted the formation

of a ſeparate eſtabliſhment; and an offer having been made by ſome of the guardians to conduct it, the new eſtabliſhment commenced in July, 1797.

A matron was appointed; who, with a ſchoolmaſter and miſtreſs and one female ſervant, formed the houſehold. The elder girls have aſſiſted in cleaning the rooms, making the beds, &c. a kind of employment, which, while it miniſters to general economy, improves them all in a moſt uſeful branch of domeſtic education. The girls have been taught to read; and have been employed in knitting, needle-work, &c. for the aſylum and the workhouſe, and for reſpectable families; and ſuch credit have they had for the manner in which their work has been done, that more has been ſent them than they have been able to execute.

In ſummer, the boys have been occaſionally ſent to labour in the farms and gardens, in the vicinity of the aſylum, and to weed and pick ſtones. The produce of this, with the work of the girls, has formed a little fund, which has enabled the committee to build a ſhop; where forty boys are employed by a pin-maker to head the pins, and ſtick them in papers in rows. By the further increaſe of this ſource of labour, they have alſo built another room, where forty girls are employed by a reſpectable draper in platting ſtraw for ladies' hats and bonnets. The overſeers and guardians are now going to enlarge the pin-ſhop, ſo as to include forty boys more in that manufactory.

Beſides the produce of their labour, theſe children do now acquire early habits of induſtry, and ſubordination, to which they were before entire ſtrangers; for, previouſly to this attempt to civilize theſe forlorn and unhappy creatures (moſt of whom had never known the reciprocal endearments and powerful operation of parental and filial affection) their rude and ſavage manners, and diſregard of authority, had produced habits ſo untractable and turbulent, as for ſome time to baffle every effort of the committee to correct them.

The firſt expedient, which contributed at all to this object, was the placing of them in claſſes, and conducting them in order round the governor, in the play-ground, ſeveral times a day; when he had an opportunity of marking their individual conduct, of correcting the diſorderly, and of applauding the tractable. This has been followed by placing them in order at meals; and by every other means that occurred, for impreſſing upon them ideas and habits of order and regularity. The good effects of theſe meaſures were daily more and more apparent; and theſe children are now become as orderly and as decent, as ſuch a number of children, under one roof, can ever be expected to become.

They have alſo a Sunday ſervice regularly and decently performed by a reſpectable young man, a clerk in the workhouſe,

who concludes with reading a ſermon. On this ſervice the whole family attends with much order and propriety.

The children have meat three times a week. They have alſo ſoup, puddings, rice, milk, bread, cheeſe, and beer; and theſe the beſt of their kind. The medical gentlemen, who are employed for the workhouſe, attend weekly in ſucceſſion, and two phyſicians of the town have benevolently given their ſervices when called upon.

The committee (five in number) meet once a week at the aſylum, for the regulation of the accounts, and for the general ſuperintendance of the whole. Each takes a department in providing the various ſupplies; making himſelf reſponſible for the quality, quantity, and terms, on which the articles are purchaſed. Thus the children are better kept, and with more economy, than by any preceding plan.

The great object of this inſtitution is eventually to place theſe children in ſociety, with the advantage of better habits and propenſities, than would have been derived without ſome ſuch preparative education. And ſuch has been the effect of the means applied, that they, who had been once the peſt and dread of houſekeepers and manufacturers, are now ſought for with avidity, as orderly and uſeful ſervants, and have every opportunity afforded them of enjoying a comfortable and permanent ſubſiſtence,

Theſe are certainly great advantages; eſpecially as they have been obtained, not only without coſt, but have been attended with the ſaving of a ſum ſo conſiderable as 3009l. in the ſpace of ſeven years, computed from July, 1797.

The detail of the account is very correctly ſtated in the report of this charity, publiſhed in October laſt.

Parish of Birmingham.

The following is a copy of the annual ſtatements made by the aſylum committee, of the expences, and ſuppoſed ſavings, with the average number of children each year in that eſtabliſhment, from its commencement in July, 1797, to July, 1804, inclusive.

First Report.—*July*, 1798.

				Savings to the Pariſh. £.	s.	d.
The average number of children 248, if put out to nurſe would coſt the pariſh 2s. each, per week	1289	12	8			
Their maintenance, including rent, fire, wages, &c. at the aſylum, at 1s. 4½d. each per week coſt	884	2	0			
				405	10	0

Second

			Savings to the Parish.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
Brot. up 1ſt report		405 10 0	
SECOND REPORT.—*July*, 1799.			
The average number of children 290, if at nurſe would coſt 2s. each per week.	1508 0 0		
Their maintenance at 1s. 4¼d. each per week, coſt	1021 8 5		
		486 11 7	
THIRD REPORT.—*July*, 1800.			
The average number of children 269, if at nurſe would coſt 2s. each per week.	1748 10 0		
Their maintenance, at 1s. 10d. each per week coſt	1283 1 4		
		465 8 8	
FOURTH REPORT.—*July*, 1801.			
The average number of children 281, if at nurſe would coſt 3s. each per week.	2191 16 0		
Their maintenance, at 2s. 1½d. each per week coſt	1555 14 6		
		636 1 6	
FIFTH REPORT.—*July*, 1802.			
The average number of children 250, if at nurſe would coſt 2s. 9d. each per week	1787 10 0		
Their maintenance at 2s. 4¼d. each per week coſt	1532 1 4		
		255 8 8	
SIXTH REPORT.—*July*, 1803.			
The average number of children 200, if at nurſe would coſt 2s. 9d. each per week	1430 0 0		
Their maintenance, at 2s. 2¼d. each per week coſt	1153 10 8		
		276 9 4	

		Savings to the Parish.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Brot. up 1ſt, 2d, 3d, 4th, 5th, and 6th reports.		2525 9 9

SEVENTH REPORT.—*July*, 1804.

The average number of children 235, if at nurſe would coſt 2s. 9d. each per week	1680 5 0	
Their maintenance, at 1s. 11½d. each per week, coſt	1196 10 10	
		483 14 2
		£.3009 3 11

Beſide the above ſavings in the maintenance of the children, they have made conſiderable earnings in labour ſuited to their ages; the boys in the heading of pins and ſticking them in rows; the girls in weaving ſtraw for ladies' hats, knitting ſtockings for the workhouſe and aſylum, mending linen, &c. The ſmaller children are employed in making oakum from old ropes; the elder females contribute to the general comfort by their labour in the houſe, which reduces the eſtabliſhment to a governeſs, ſchool-maſter and miſtreſs, and one female ſervant. Their habits of induſtry produce a cheerful ſubordination, and render them more acceptable when called into any ſervice in active life. Their health is alſo much benefited by the order in which they live; for many weeks in ſucceſſion not one is to be ſeen on the ſick liſt, and ſeldom more than one or two at a time; few in ſuch a number have died, and none are oppreſſed with hard labour, ſo as to produce deformity, which was not uncommon while under the care of hireling nurſes in the neighbouring villages.

It might alſo be added, that the view in making this report public, is not only to ſhew the town, that conſiderable, and not unſucceſsful efforts are made to mitigate the burthens of parochial taxes; but at the ſame time to prevent, in ſome meaſure, their recurrence, by uniting profitable labour with their uſeful habits, in this branch of the riſing generation—"The children of the poor." It was likewiſe conſidered, that it might afford ſome uſeful hints to neighbouring pariſhes, to prove that the moderate labour of children is not only productive of preſent profit, but of permanent and extenſive benefit to the pariſh, and to ſociety.

OBSERVATIONS.

The great and eſſential benefit of the foregoing plan is the ſeparation of the pariſh children from thoſe hopeleſs and depraved characters,

characters, which conſtitute too great a part of the population of every workhouſe.

The reader ſhould be aware that theſe children continue to be maintained by the pariſh. But he will find that the expence of that maintenance in ſeven preceding years, has been leſs by 3000l, than it would have been in the pariſh workhouſe.

As the account now ſtands, the pariſh has made an annual ſaving of above 400l. a year; has ſent out their poor children with the means and ability of maintaining themſelves; has diminiſhed the profligacy, and improved the habits and induſtry, of their neighbourhood; and in that claſs of young perſons, who in many other pariſhes are daily proceeding from idle habits to atrocious crimes, has had the gratification of obſerving a gradual and uninterrupted progreſs in habits of induſtry and prudence, and in the practice of morality and religion.

5th January, 1805.

INSPECTOR, No. II.

" About me round I ſaw
" Hill, dale, and ſhady woods, and ſunny plains,
" And liquid lapſe of murm'ring ſtreams."

ADDISON did not enter the theatre with ſtronger emotions for the fate of Cato, the night on which it was repreſented, than I felt whilſt waiting in expectation of the appearance of my firſt production. I experienced the ſame anxiety which I conceive a fond mother does for her firſt-born babe. Immediately as I received the Entertainer, and found I was in it, I took it home, and omitting my name, read the piece to the family. As ſoon as I could recover the agitation it occaſioned, I deſired to have their opinions. My landlady, who has ſome learning, and lays claim, perhaps not without right, to the title of a woman of taſte, ſpoke ſo highly of the performance, that I thought proper neither to inform her who was the author, nor to repeat her commendations.

As I was propoſing what to write for the next Inſpector, in came Tom Wanderer, with a copy of verſes for my inſpection. Thinking this would be equally agreeable with any thing of my own, I determined to inſert it.

The BANKS of TONE.

When ſummer-eve, in bright array,
Steals o'er the long and buſy day,
Freſh breezes play among the leaves,
And ſwell the ſtreams in gentle waves;

And

And tow'rds the regions of the weſt,
Bright Sol in milder radiance dreſt,
Rid of his ſultry noontide beam,
Retires, I love along a ſtream,
Where trees afford a friendly ſhade,
Nor art deforms what nature made,
To rove, and o'er creation ſpy
With contemplation's placid eye.
O could I in the colours due,
Deſign the landſcape fair and true,
Where on the charming banks of Tone
Pleaſure has often led me on;
When from the lawn I bend my way,
And hear the lark's reſounding lay,
From his lofty, tow'ring height,
And loſt in clouds elude my ſight;
Verdant meads attract my eyes;
Behind them gentle ſlopes ariſe,
Which either herds, or flocks adorn,
Or orchard, or elſe waving corn;
For not a ſpot neglected lies,
Where'er I turn my raviſh'd eyes.
Between the trees, upon the green,
A hamlet here and there is ſeen,
Where, tho' no luxury nor wealth,
Reſide, it is the ſeat of health.
But diſtant from the peaſant's cot,
Yon verdant landſcape, marks the ſpot,
Where from the town's tumultuous ſtrife,
Retir'd, pomp leads the rural life.
But now by Phœbus' ſlanting beam,
Thro' the copſe I catch a gleam
Of the ſlowly winding ſtream,
Which falling where yon cot appears
With gentle murmurs ſtrikes my ears,
And acting in ſweet concert, gains
From the ſoft, melodious ſtrains,
That iſſue from the tuneful band,
Who on the waving branches ſtand,
A wild and yet a pleaſing ſound,
That the echoing dales rebound.
The winding courſe I ſtill purſue,
'Till ſudden burſting on the view,
Appears a hill, with air ſublime;
I now prepare myſelf to climb,
With lab'ring ſteps, the ſteep aſcent,
And give imagination vent.

The

The level ſummit now I gain,
And caſt a view o'er all the plain,
Upon whoſe chequered face appear
The beauties of the glowing year.
In ev'ry part, a pleaſing change
Invites my eye o'er all to range;
There trees afford a varied ſcene,
And there the meads in ſmiling green,
In many mazy turns, I ſee
Proud rolling through the rich valley,
Where Tone extends his ſilver flood,
'Till loſt he ſeems in yonder wood.
Where thoſe two lofty ſpheres ariſe,
Down yonder vale, fair Taunton lies;
The valley's pride, the country's boaſt,
The glory of the weſtern coaſt.
Where Black-down hills ariſe in view,
The ſun retires and bids adieu
To us, and ſheds his parting ray,
And ſcatters the remains of day;
The blue ethereal ſky between
Some ſhading clouds do intervene,
That by the ſun's reflected beam
All ting'd with gold and ſilver ſeem.
Approaching twilight calls me home,
Not farther from the town to roam,
Tho' I could with pleaſure ſtay,
And hear the ſhepherd's rural lay;
O happy! if it were my lot,
To live in ſome ſequeſter'd ſpot;
With nature's ſelf ſweet converſe hold
And all her ſecret ſtores unfold.
But not alone would I enjoy
Such pleaſure, or it ſoon would cloy;
A boſom friend in this retreat,
Would even make affliction ſweet.
But why this wiſh? for not a place
Within the earth's unbounded ſpace,
Can e'er, tho' full of ſeeming bliſs,
The diſcontented mind ſuffice.
But if thy aid, O ſweet content,
Be kindly to the boſom lent,
Then ev'ry path alike will pleaſe,
And ev'ry burden quickly ceaſe.
Content dwells only in the breaſt,
And makes our idle wiſhes reſt.
O charming nymph, O pow'r divine,
May'ſt thou ever on me ſhine;

Teach me to ſmooth the rugged way,
On darkneſs pour a chearing ray.

N. B. Roger Inſpector will be glad to receive communications from any perſon, in whatever ſituation; and will make it his particular care to endeavour to redreſs grievances of all kinds.

PARISIAN FASHIONS *for* MARCH.

MANY round gowns are ſeen at balls, and on which are ſeveral bunches of flowers; the gown is ſometimes open on one ſide, to render the reſemblance more exact to the opera coſtumes. The head-dreſſes, almoſt entirely of hair, ornamented with pearls and flowers, having been during the laſt few days more numerous than turbans. The influences of ſpring is very perceptible on the greater part of dreſs. Some ladies go out without any other head-dreſs to protect their head than a tuft on the front part; ſome others wear a white or pale yellow Florence hat, with a very large bunch of violets; others have adopted bars of white ſtraw to form ſtripes on ſatin hats; and laſtly, others, and their number is very conſiderable, have, for walking, a bonnet, with a very advanced peak of yellow ſtraw. Ranunculi of all colours are ſeen in garlands. Veils are always worn hanging over the face. For necklaces, feſtoons of harpies teeth are more faſhionable than ever. Some cloth great coats, without large round collars, have the back puckered *a l'enfant*. No Tuſcan embroideries, nor any thing that reſembles the Arabic coſtumes are worn: the Turkiſh manners, cheriſhed even ſince autumn, ſeem to be yielding to the French manners. French flowers are embroidered of their natural largeneſs.

Some fine ſpring days, that have ſhone on the boſom of winter, have brought the morning promenades into vogue. The tradeſmen's daughters walk on the Boulevards, and the half faſhionables on the terrace in the Thuilleries; but it is at the Boulogne wood that the faſhionable world, bucks on horſeback, in curricles, and buggies, and ladies in their *bombonniers* have appointments.

On the large vaſes that are uſed for ornaments at Paris, and which are made of porcelaine, the gold or ſilver leaves are applied with ſo much ingenuity and ability, that the vaſes appear to be ſolid gold or ſilver. Some are painted in jaſper without any other additions; the forms are quite ſimple; they muſt appear to take their merit from the richneſs of the compoſition.

Account of Mr. Joſeph Smith's Method of fixing and ſetting an Alarum or Alarum-Bell, ſo contrived as to alarm Families in Caſe of Fires, &c. with Obſervations.

IT is known to every body that alarums, on the old conſtruction, are acted upon by means of wires, connected with doors, window-ſhutters, &c. and that no perſon can force theſe parts of the houſe without breaking or diſengaging the wire, which inſtantly ſets the alarum off. This, of courſe, could be of no uſe in the caſe of fire, as it would be a conſiderable time before the flames would make ſufficient impreſſion on it ſo as to cauſe a ſeparation of its parts.

Inſtead, therefore, of wire, Mr. Smith makes uſe of a fine, but ſtrong ſtring, which flames will ſpeedily burn in two. As a preventative againſt burglaries, the little bolts, that confine the ſtring, are made ſo ſharp, that a very ſmall preſſure may cut it aſunder, which inſtantly diſengages the alarum.

Obſervations.—We have only to obſerve, that inventions which tend to the ſecurity of lives and property merit every attention. The greateſt objection to alarums is, that from a variety of accidents the wires in the old conſtruction, and the cord in the new, are apt to ſnap, at times when there is no danger, by which perſons and families may be terrified without any real cauſe.

It is obvious, that for Mr. Smith's invention to ſerve as a perfect alarum againſt the effects of fire, the cord ſhould be carried to every door and window, and thoſe be previouſly ſhut; and then a fire could not extend beyond a ſingle room, without awakening the family.

It may, perhaps, be worth while for ſome ingenious perſon to direct his attention to the ſtill further improvement of machines for leſſening the dreadful conſequences of fires. The alarm of fire is ſo diſtreſſing, that any method of leſſening its horrors would be highly acceptable to the public, and meet with a ſuitable reward.

A Curious GAME *at* PICQUET.

ELDEST hand, ace, king of diamonds, ace, king, queen, knave, ſeven of clubs, ace, king, queen, eight and ſeven of hearts; youngeſt hand, ſixieme, major, ſpades, knave, and ten of hearts, queen, ten, and eight of diamonds, ten of clubs.

In playing this deal, the eldeſt hand could not reckon one point, but made every trick. Query what ought each to ſcore?

P. A.

Anſwer, by a young Lady near Weymouth, to S. Murch's Rebus, inſerted Jan. 14.

MAY DUNCAN's ſhade for ever be rever'd,
Who rais'd the orphan, and the widow cheer'd!
Who, when returning from his deeds of fame,
To add another laurel to his name,
For thoſe who with him loſt their deareſt friends,
His purſe he open'd, and his aid extends;
Baniſh'd each grief, diſpel'd their ev'ry tear,
While his lov'd name e'en infants did revere;
And in the realms of univerſal joy
His recompence ſhall flow without alloy:
For in that Being's eye whoſe gifts on all deſcend,
Bleſſed's the man who doth the wretch befriend.

☞ We have received the like anſwer from Thomas Kite, of Stockland; A. Kyne, jun. of Dartmouth; W. Tucker, of Tilſhead ſchool; T. Adey, J. B. B. and J. Lewis, of Poole; and Adrianus.

Anſwer, by Sophia, to T. Sheel's Anagram, inſerted January 28.

MARA tranſpos'd will RAMA ſhew,
Where Herod many infants ſlew.

*** We have received ſimilar anſwers from T. Prout, of Mevagiſſey; J. Channon, of Ottery; and W. Tucker, of Tilſhead ſchool.

Anſwer, by T. Prout, of Mevagiſſey, to T. Rutger's Charade, inſerted Jan. 28.

CAMBRIDGE, where ſolid learning doth abound,
If I gueſs right, your charade will expound.

†§† We have received the like anſwer from Sophia; W. Bickham, jun. of Aſhburton; Adrianus; and J. B. B. and J. Lewis, of Poole.

A REBUS, *by Adrianus.*

A Succour firſt you will ſet down;
And then a diphthong pray expound;
Laſtly what Luna rules produce,
My whole then will not be abſtruſe;
Set down theſe parts, in order right,
You then will clearly bring to light,
A race whom poets have affirm'd
By Venus into ſtones were turn'd.

A CHARADE, *by T. Rutger, of Clowance.*

SWIFT thro' the air, on volant wing,
My firſt in rapt'rous ſtrain doth ſing,
Mounting the azure ſkies;
Behold the high-bred, mettled ſteed,
Urg'd by my ſecond, in full ſpeed
Swift o'er the courſe he flies.
When blooming ſweets adorn the plain,
And Flora, with her lovely train,
Bedeck the enamell'd ground;
Midſt flow'rs that deck the garden fair,
Rich odours wafting thro' the air,
My whole may then be found.

POETRY.

For the WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

SPRING.

Written and ſet to Muſic by THOMAS SHOEL.

HAIL lovely maid! of ſeaſons queen,
Clad in thy veſt of matchleſs green,
Where flowers of every tint appear,
The rich embroidery of the year.

Yon genial ſun thy childhood warms,
Faſt ripening all thy infant charms;
Thy heat refreſhing rains allay,
Sweet cooling Sol's meridian ray.

Thine is the hawthorn, white as ſnow;
Thine is the apple's fragrant blow;
Each full ripe fruit that autumn ſhews,
Thy eye in pleaſing embrio views.

Thine too is Flora's bluſhing train,
Wide ſpreading o'er the enamell'd plain;
Thine is the meek primroſe's bloom,
And thine the violet's choice perfume.

The cowſlip's grateful ſcent is thine,
And balmy breathing eglantine;
The roſe's bluſh, the lily's glow,
Thy flower-beſprinkling hand can ſhow.

Thine too is nature's artleſs choir,
Whom gratitude and love inſpire;
While hill and woodland, grove and plain,
Reſound the full harmonious ſtrain.

The cuckoo tunes his annual ſong,
And charms thy ears "the woods among;"
The ſprightly lark his mattins pours
To ſerenate thy early hours.

Thine is the thruſh's varied note,
And thine the mellow blackbird's throat;
While woodlark, linnet, goldfinch, join,
And all in harmony combine.

Each tuneful minſtrel of the grove
Sounds, ſweetly ſounds the ſong of love,
Thy well-pleas'd ears to entertain,
While day illumes the ſmiling plain.

And when retiring to the weſt,
On beds of flowers he bids thee reſt,
Thy nightingale awakes her lay,
And ſoothes thee from her hawthorn ſpray.

Then on thy brow bright Cynthia beams;
Then glow thy robes with ſtarry gems;
Then love's fair planet, from her throne,
Pours lucid ſplendours on thy zone.

O lovely nymph! how vaſt thy charms
When May's ſweet ſun thy boſom warms;
Or when by ardent June careſs'd,
His full-blown roſes deck thy breaſt!

How pleaſing thou, when thus array'd,
In ripen'd beauty rich diſplay'd!
While zephyr fans thee with his breeze,
And muſic ſings among the trees.

But ah! ſweet maid, thou too muſt die,
Thy ſhort-liv'd beauties ſoon muſt fly;
Soon muſt thy matchleſs graces fade,
Thy lilies ſoil'd, thy roſes dead.

Thus youth o'er life's gay morn muſt mourn,
For ever fled, nor to return;
Thus muſt its flatt'ring ſcenes deplore,
Ah! never to enjoy them more.

But, well improv'd, that firſt, beſt time,
Shall yield to manhood's uſeful prime;
Ev'n wintry age its charms ſhall have,
Nor ſtart at death, nor fear a grave.

And, when unhing'd from both its poles,
No more the wheel of nature rolls;
When ſounds the trumpets thro' the ſkies,
Then virtue ſhall triumphant riſe.

Then wafted to a better clime
It there ſhall flouriſh all ſublime;
More than its former tints reſume,
And glow with full, immortal bloom.

Curious Epitaphs in Bideford Church-yard, Devon.

THE wedding-day appointed was,
And wedding-cloaths provided;
But ere that day did come, alas!
He ſicken'd and he die did.

On JOHN UNDERWOOD.

AH, cruel death! thou doſt no good,
With thy deſtructive maggots!
Now thou haſt cropp'd our underwood,
What ſhall we do for faggots?

On MARY SEXTON.

HERE lies the body of Mary Sexton,
Who pleas'd many a man, but never vex'd one,
Not like the woman who lies under the next ſtone.

WHAT IS LOVE.

'TIS that delightful tranſport we can feel,
Which painters cannot paint, nor words reveal,
Nor any art we know of—can conceal.
Can'ſt thou deſcribe the ſun-beams to the blind,
Or make him feel a ſhadow with his mind?
So neither can we by deſcription ſhow,
This firſt of all felicities below.